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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

USSR GRAIN ARRIVES IN POLAND
DESPITE POLISH SURPLUS

EXPECT FURTHER SHIPMENTS -- Slowo Katolickie, No 11, 26 Mar 50

Shipments of grain are coming into Poland from the USSR. Tens of thousands of tons have already arrived and further shipments are expected. These shipments are strange because Beirut expressed great optimism in connection with the last crops, and even mentioned a surplus. Although not much weight can be attached to such statements, nevertheless it seems that the situation cannot be so critical as to require grain imports. Since this type of propaganda is no longer necessary in Poland, there must be military or economic reasons for these shipments.

A great propaganda campaign for agricultural cooperatives, or collectives, is in progress at present. In his speech before the central committee of the party in the fall, Bierut mentioned that there were 70 agricultural cooperatives. By the end of February, this number was reported to have increased to 384; at present, there are supposed to be 500 such cooperatives. Actually, of the 384 only 26 were organized in villages where individual farms existed, the rest were organized in Regained Territories or in parcelled estates.

Socialized or cooperative machine centers have been organized in the villages. These centers are to handle all the mechanical problems. The personnel training program for these cooperatives and machine centers is progressing at full speed. The entire farm-training program comprising 700,000 persons a year has been reorganized and adapted to the needs of cooperative management. The village youth will be trained in modern farm methods based on the Soviet pattern. These hasty preparations do not prove that a realization of agricultural cooperatives in great numbers is possible at this time. There are many technical difficulties; the shortage of mechanized equipment and the hostile attitude of the peasant masses are not encouraging factors.

It is taken for granted that the will of the people will not be considered and the difficulties encountered will only intensify the efforts. The mysterious grain shipments are a part of this preparation. Organizers of collectives

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want to avoid the shock and famine suffered by the USSR in working out a similar program. For this reason great emphasis is placed on buying up grain. All surpluses on farms must be released to the State Granaries. Any deviation from this regulation, sale of grain on the free market, or accumulation is subject to fine. Three-man teams have been organized in villages to see that these regulations are followed and to report anyone who is accumulating grain or selling it on the free market. The multimillion-zloty credit recently allocated by the Economic Committee of the Council of Ministers for the spring sowing indicates the importance of the grain problem. According to the Six-Year Plan, the spring sowing will take in 9 million hectares. At least 360,500 hectares of fallow lands will be liquidated.

The solicitude shown in connection with the grain supply is part of the preparation for collectivization. Collectives stem not only from the Bolshevik economic principles so assiduously assimilated by the regime in Poland but also from military requirements. Rokossovskiy is reorganizing the Polish Army on Soviet lines and wants to settle the problem of grain reserves and farm production for the benefit of the army. The most logical handling would be through collectives; however, before they can be realized in numbers sufficient for the needs of the army, various temporary measures are necessary, including the accumulation of grain, the spring sowing program, and the mysterious grain shipments. Rokossovskiy wants no surprises.

In normal times, such accumulation of grain and such solicitude would indicate abundance and security; at this time, however, these measures and precautions create uncertainty and concern for the future.

AGRICULTURAL CO-OPS INCREASE -- Polska Zbrojna, No 71, 12 Mar 50

The number of agricultural cooperatives has been increasing steadily. There were 176 new cooperatives in February. In the first 10 days of March, an additional 126 cooperatives were set up. There are now 649 agricultural cooperatives in Poland.

The greatest increase has been registered in Wroclaw Wojewodztwo, with 27 new cooperatives, which is followed by Szczecin Wojewodztwo, with 24 cooperatives, and by the Gdansk and Warsaw wojewodztwos, with 25 and 13 new cooperatives respectively.

The peasants preferably set up an Agricultural Cooperative Pool which is the highest Type III cooperative. They rarely adopt the Type I Association for Land Cultivation.

Of the total number of 126 cooperatives registered in the first 10 days of March, 77 were set up as Type III, and 36 as Type II Agricultural Products Cooperatives, and only 13 as Type I Associations for Land Cultivation. Most cooperatives comprise all the peasants in the village, who, in addition to the land, bring in horses, farm machines and equipment, livestock, etc.

Rzeczpospolita, No 81, 22 Mar 50

On 20 March 1950 the total number of agricultural cooperatives amounted to 726. They comprised 17,433 farms and an area of 152,500 hectares. Also, 126 new cooperatives registered with the Central Board of Peasants' Self-Help in the first 10 days of March and 78 more from 10 - 20 March.

Szczecin Wojewodztwo continues to lead, with 107 cooperatives, followed by Poznan and Wroclaw wojewodztwos, with 97 cooperatives each.

Peasant women play an increasing part in setting up agricultural cooperatives.

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REPORTS SURPLUS CROP IN 1949 -- Rzeczpospolita, No 66, 7 Mar 50

The discussion in the Sejm on the agriculture and forestry budget emphasized that agriculture, despite outmoded equipment and methods and divided farms, achieved a surplus crop in 1949.

The livestock-breeding program, in which more than 2 million farmers participated with the help of the state, achieved great success.

The main objectives in agriculture for 1950 are increased crop yields and increased livestock production. The small and medium farmers realize the necessity of modern methods and are joining agricultural cooperatives in increased numbers. On 1 December 1949, there were 245 agricultural cooperatives; today there are 590. More than 14,133 farms have joined.

Two billion zlotys have been allocated in the budget for the sowing program which is important since it is the first in the Six-Year Plan. It will be a test of the PGR management and the efficiency of the agricultural cooperatives and State Machine Centers. It is expected that 6,700 new tractors will be acquired this year.

In forestry, emphasis was placed on the production of more usable lumber. More efficiency in logging operations is imperative. Small sawmills should be replaced with large ones located near the sources of raw materials.

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